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NOTES

CUBA: CASTRO HAS EXPRESSED A DESIRE FOR TALKS WITH THE UNITED STATES. DURING A CONVERSATION IN HAVANA ON 1 FEBRUARY, CASTRO ASKED THE SWISS AMBASSADOR TO CONVEY THE MESSAGE THAT HE WAS INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING ISSUES OF MUTUAL CONCERN, PRESUMABLY WITH A VIEW TO EDGING TOWARD A DETENTE. HE INDICATED THAT THE TALKS COULD INCLUDE SUBJECTS SUCH AS THE HIJACKING OF AIRLINERS, "FOREIGN" INTERFERENCE IN LATIN AMERICA, PLOTTING AGAINST CUBA BY ANTI-CASTRO EXILES, AND ESCAPES BY REFUGEES INTO THE US NAVAL BASE AT GUANTANAMO. CASTRO PROBABLY HOPES THAT SUCH DISCUSSIONS WOULD EVENTUALLY LEAD TO AN EASING OF THE US ECONOMIC DENIAL POLICY, BUT THERE ARE NO INDICATIONS THAT HE IS WILLING TO ABANDON HIS LONG-TERM PLANS FOR SPREADING THE REVOLUTION THROUGHOUT THE HEMISPHERE.

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